

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is asserted that these amendments do not add new matter and are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. Entry of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 29-42 and 45-55, 57 and 58 have been rejected.

Claims 43 and 44 are objected to.

Claims 30, 32, 36, 38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 51, 52, and 57 have been amended.

Claims 29, 40, 42 and 50 have been canceled.

Claims 31, 33-35, 37, 39, 44-46, 48, 49, 53-55 and 58 are kept unchanged.

Claims 30-39, 41, 43-49, 51-55, 57 and 58 are pending in the application.

Allowable Claim 43 has been rewritten including all the limitations of claim 29, 40 and 42.

Claims 30, 32, 36, 38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 51, 52, and 57 have been amended to be dependent upon allowable claim 43.

Unchanged claims 31, 33-35, 37, 39, 44-46, 48, 49, 53-55 and 58 are now dependent upon allowable claims.

Claims 29-42, 47, 50-55 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616).

The rejection of Claims 29, 40, 42 and 50 is now moot because those claims have been canceled.

The rejection of claims 30-39, 41, 47, and 51-55 does not apply any more because the claims 30-39, 41, 47, and 51-55 are now dependent upon allowable claim 43.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner now reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 29-42, 47, 50-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616).

Claims 45, 46, 48, and 49 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616), and further in view of Anderson et al. (US 6,413,590).

The rejection of claims 45, 46, 48, and 49 does not apply any more because the claims 45, 46, 48, and 49 are now dependent upon allowable claim 43.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner now reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 45, 46, 48, and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616), and further in view of Anderson et al. (US 6,413,590).

Claims 57 and 58 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616).

The rejection of claims 57 and 58 does not apply any more because the claims 57 and 58 are now dependent upon allowable claim 43.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner now reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 57 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Dransfield et al. (U.S. Patent 5,336,521), in view of December (U.S. Patent 6,376,616).

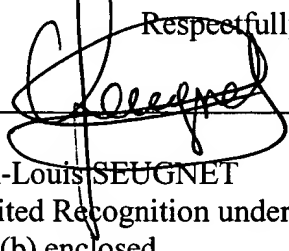
RN01013
Serial number: 09/781,475
AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In view of the preceding remarks, it is asserted that the patent application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any question concerning these remarks that would further advance prosecution of the claims to allowance, the examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned agent at (609) 860-4180. A notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

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RN01013.FinalAmend

Respectfully submitted,
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